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Soccer Mom

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courtyard, braking at the front steps. Henri is waiting for me. He opens the carriage door and lifts me down into his arms, kissing me. That same kiss once wakened me from a death-like slumber.

He studies me in the light from the lantern, and I tilt my head and grin. We begin to laugh, then race the steps two at a time, arm in arm.

THE END

Soccer Mom

by

Kate Reilly

She laces cleats,
serves oranges,
their skin forgotten
clocks that never got
around to change
after midnight,
and watches the slipper
shatter before the carriage.
Unbelievably, the pumpkin
returns undefeated.